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ER

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

OLL-0163/86

21 January 1986

The Honorable Patricia Schroeder  
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Civil Service  
Committee on Post Office and Civil Service  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

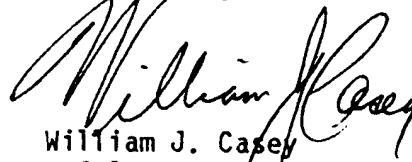
Dear Madam Chairwoman:

This is in response to your letter of 6 January 1986 concerning the CIA's use of polygraph examinations. I assume that your interest is in determining the effectiveness of the polygraph and not in the specifics of any given case.

As you point out in your letter, CIA does have a reinvestigation program under which all employees are subject to background reinvestigations and additional polygraph testing. Agency policy calls for such reinvestigation activities every five years. We have succeeded in polygraphing 85 percent of our employees during the last 10 years. Competing demands on limited investigative and polygraph resources have prevented us from reaching 100 percent of our employees and, unfortunately, Mr. Chin was one of those missed. Until we get the resources we need, our priorities for investigations and polygraphs are (1) new applicants; (2) employees completing their 3-year probationary period; (3) employees returning from overseas; and (4) employees who have not been reinvestigated in the last five years.

Your second question relates to the polygraph procedures used in 1970 and the procedures used today. Over the years, the CIA polygraph program has gone through many evaluations and some changes. All aspects have been affected, including polygraph instrumentation, polygraph examiner selection and training, examination techniques, and the Quality Control procedures. The aim of these efforts has always been to achieve the highest level of professional performance.

Sincerely,

  
William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence

cc: Chairman, House Permanent Select  
Committee on Intelligence



S-108-1R

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OLL:LD  aw (14 Jan 85)  
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## Remarks

TO #13: Please prepare an appropriate response for DCI signature.

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Executive Secretary

8 Jan 86

Date

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**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**COMMITTEE ON POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE**  
**SUBCOMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE**

122 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

**Washington, DC 20515**

TELEPHONE (202) 225-4025

January 6, 1986

Honorable William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:


As you know, I have a strong interest in the use of polygraph examinations as a method of ascertaining the trustworthiness of government employees. I would, therefore, appreciate answers to the following two questions:

1. Is it true, as General Richard Stilwell writes in today's Washington Post, that Larry Wu-Tai Chin took only a single polygraph in 1970? If so, wasn't this a violation of CIA policy that individuals with access to sensitive information be subject to periodic reinvestigations and polygraphs every five years?
2. Is it true, as General Stilwell writes, that the polygraph examination given to Mr. Chin in 1970 was not subject to the "sophisticated control procedures in effect today"? If so, please describe the procedures used in the examination given to Mr. Chin and those in effect today.

Thank you for your cooperation with this request.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

  
PATRICIA SCHROEDER  
Chairwoman

DCI  
EXEC  
REG

CHIN  
S-111-IR